

ORDINANCE NO. O-2024-25

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE CODE OF ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF WHEATON, APPENDIX B (FEE SCHEDULE), SECTION B-8, PUBLIC WORKS/WATER FEES

WHEREAS, the City of Wheaton ("City") is an Illinois Home Rule Municipality pursuant to provisions of Article VII, Section 6 of the Illinois Constitution, and as such the City may exercise any power and perform any function pertaining to its government and affairs; and

WHEREAS, the subject matter of this ordinance pertains to the government and affairs of the City and its residents; and

WHEREAS, the City operates a municipal water utility system within the community serving a population of approximately 53,000 residents, businesses, and visitors; and

WHEREAS, the City's water utility system is facing ongoing financial challenges that could lead to financial instability over the next five years. Operating and maintaining the City's water utility system is becoming increasingly costly, driven by factors like inflation, rising energy costs, and increases in material prices. Continued rate increases by the City of Chicago and DuPage Water Commission have significantly reduced available funding for annual operations and infrastructure investment. On average, costs for purchasing water from the DWC comprise 70% of the City's total operating expenses of the water utility system; and

WHEREAS, the essential components of the City's water infrastructure, including water mains, storage tanks, and pumping stations, require continuous maintenance and periodic upgrades to maintain optimal performance. Many of these assets are aging and require repair or replacement to prevent leaks, uphold water quality, meet regulatory requirements, and ensure dependable service delivery; and

WHEREAS, the City conducted a water rate study with the objective to evaluate the financial sustainability of the water utility system and develop strategies for long-term stability, ensuring adequate funding to support its operations, maintenance, and infrastructure needs; and

WHEREAS, the water rate study determined that adjustments to the water rates and fees for the water utility system are required to support the financial health of the water utility system; and

WHEREAS, the City has not increased the water rates and fees referenced herein since 2015; and

WHEREAS, the City Council finds that it is in the best interest of the City to amend its rates and fees for the water utility system.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the Mayor and City Council of the City of Wheaton, DuPage County, Illinois, pursuant to its home rule powers, as follows:

SECTION 1: That Subsection 12 “Rates for metered water service” of Section B-8, Public Works/Water Fees, Appendix B (Fee Schedule) of the Wheaton City Code, is hereby amended as follows:


B-8 Public Works Water and Sewer Rates and Fees				
2. Water rates and fees:	(Chapter 74)			
12. Rates and fees for metered water service:				
a. Fixed monthly fees:				
Meter size	January 1, 2015 – December 31, 2024	January 1, 2025	January 1, 2026	January 1, 2027
Up to 3/4"	\$13.59	\$14.95	\$17.94	\$21.53
1"	\$27.18	\$29.90	\$35.88	\$43.06
1½"	\$54.35	\$59.79	\$71.75	\$86.10
2"	\$86.96	\$95.66	\$114.79	\$137.75
3"	\$163.06	\$179.37	\$215.24	\$258.29
4"	\$271.76	\$298.94	\$358.73	\$430.48
6"	\$543.53	\$597.88	\$717.46	\$860.95
b. City usage rate:				
	January 1, 2015 – December 31, 2024	January 1, 2025	January 1, 2026	January 1, 2027
Rate per 100 cubic feet	\$5.05	\$1.84	\$1.90	\$1.95
Minimum monthly usage charge is 100 cubic feet				
c. DuPage Water Commission usage rate				
Shall be equal to the sum of the fixed and variable rates the DuPage Water Commission (DWC) is charging the City at any given time. The rates shall be implemented and effective on the same dates set forth and approved by the DWC. The rates will be adjusted automatically when the DWC increases its rates without any further action required by the City Council. However, the City staff shall notify the Mayor and City Council of any changes to the rates proposed by the DWC, as set forth in their proposed budget, at least 45 days prior to the effective dates of any rate changes				
Minimum monthly usage charge is 100 cubic feet				

SECTION 2: In all other respects, the terms and provisions of the Wheaton City Code are ratified and remain in full force and effect.

SECTION 3: All ordinances or parts of ordinances in conflict with these provisions are hereby repealed.

SECTION 4: In the event that any section, clause, provision, or part of this ordinance shall be found and determined to be invalid by a court of competent jurisdiction, all valid parts that are severable from the invalid parts shall remain in full force and effect.

SECTION 5: This ordinance shall become effective from and after its passage, approval, and publication in pamphlet form in the manner prescribed by law.



Mayor

Attest: 

City Clerk

Roll Call Vote:

Ayes: Councilman Barbier
Councilwoman Bray-Parker
Councilman Brown
Mayor Suess
Councilman Clousing
Councilman Weller

Nays: None
Absent: Councilwoman Robbins
Motion Carried Unanimously

Passed: September 3, 2024

Published: September 4, 2024